

The IDVA Update



Mitch Daniels - Governor
Tom Applegate - Director

November 2010

The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs Newsletter

Edition 2010-3

Parking at the Roudebush VA Medical Center

The parking at the Roudebush VA Medical Center in Indianapolis has been an issue for as long as most of us can remember and will continue to be an issue for a while longer, but there does seem to be a light at the end of the tunnel.

Recently, Roudebush VAMC Director, Tom Mat-tice, in an internal newsletter to VAMC staff outlined the plans for alleviating the parking situation at that location. He has generously allowed us to share that article. Here it is in its entirety:

“I don’t think anyone who works here is not aware that parking has become a major issue for the medical center. I judge what kind of day I am going to have based on how long I can go before someone mentions “the P-word” to me. If you think it’s bad now, it’s going to become even worse soon. Here is the latest:

“• As of October 1, we will lose about 275 parking spots we have been leasing from Wishard. These spots are located east of the helipad. This is Wishard’s property and is being used for construction of their new hospital.

“• We will lose another 450 spots around the end of the year to begin the construction on our new parking garage. So the net loss is over 700 spots. To counteract this:

“• We are in the process of securing a 500 space lot for employee and patient parking, and will be using

shuttle buses to transport employees as well as any patients who choose to park there. The location of the 500-space lot cannot be released until the final contract is signed.

“• We are expanding the gravel lot area at Cold Spring Road.

“• We have determined that a third lot is necessary. Approximately 270 of our employees will park at Stout Field, beginning 10/4/10. This will compensate for the patient overflow lot spaces near the helipad previously leased from Wishard.

“Note that these are considered changes in working conditions, and we have begun negotiations with both unions regarding the changes in parking.

“The good news is this. By March of 2012 if all goes as currently planned, we will have a net gain of at least 500 additional spaces available on campus.

“• We have approval for a \$9.9 million parking structure on our Michigan Street (south) lot. The net gain from this project will be at least an additional 280 spaces, and perhaps as many as 450 more. The projected completion date is March 2012.

“• We are hoping to lease up to 500 additional spaces from Wishard when their parking structure is completed. The projected completion date for their garage is also March 2012.”



Gold Star Parents Are Eligible for Indiana Veterans' Home

The National Association of State Veterans' Homes (NASVH) won a major victory in Washington D.C. last month when President Obama signed HR 4505 into law.

NASVH worked with Senator John Ensign of Nevada to get the Gold Star Parents Bill (S 1450) introduced in the Senate. The bill changed the definition of a Gold State Parent, for admission to a state veterans home, from a parent who must have lost "all" their children in wartime service to a parent who has lost "a" child to wartime service.

The bill passed the House by a vote of 420-0. It passed the Senate on September 20th by Unanimous Consent. The Bill was quietly signed into law by President Barrack Obama on September 30, 2010 and became Public Law 111-246.

This means the Indiana Veterans' Home (IVH) can accept for residency the civilian parent or parents of any service member who was lost in wartime service.

Just last year Governor Mitch Daniels signed state legislation into law which adjusted the residency requirement to allow for the eligibility of more veterans. In combination, the two bills will help in our efforts to increase the resident population at IVH.



Indiana Veterans' Home Cemetery to Receive a Face Lift



Although not commonly known, Indiana actually has TWO state veterans' cemeteries, not just one.

The newest one, the Indiana Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, located at Madison Indiana, was opened in 1999 and is open to any veteran.

The oldest one, located in West Lafayette, Indiana on the grounds of the Indiana Veterans' Home (IVH), was opened in 1895, along with the Home, but only veterans who are residing at the Home at the time of their death are eligible for burial there.

Alan Burnham, Superintendent of the Indiana Veterans' Memorial Cemetery, has recently been notified that his request for a VA grant to restore the IVH Cemetery was granted. Alan and his staff will be the workers and they hope to restore the cemetery to its former beauty. They feel the work is in honor of those veterans who died while they were living at the Home, many of them Civil War veterans.

The grant, in the amount of almost \$300,000 will be used for realignment and resetting of the headstones, cleaning or replacing of headstones, tree stump removal and tree trimming, re-sodding and or re-seeding appropriate areas and the purchase of flowers and shrubs for general beautification purposes.

State Flag Flown on USS Jarrett on Display at the Indiana Veterans' Memorial Cemetery



On May 16, 2009, the Indiana Flag was flown on board the USS Jarrett in honor of the Jarrett and all sailors on board from Indiana and all who have served aboard her. That flag is now on display at the Indiana Veterans' Memorial Cemetery.



This was at the request of Fred Major's son, Spencer (left), a sailor aboard the ship. Fred is a Program Director with our State Approving Agency. Spencer e-mailed his dad that day, saying "The flag has been raised and was flown most the day today!!! I tell you what Dad... I'm not going to lie... It was a sight for sore eyes!! All the guys from Indiana are very proud!! Everyone on the ship including the CO knows where the flag is going."



The USS Jarrett (FFG-33) is a guided missile frigate assigned to Destroyer Squadron 21 and is homeported at San Diego, California. Jarrett is the first ship of that name in the US Navy. She was also the first US Navy warship to be commanded by a woman, Commander Kathleen A. McGrath, from 18 December 1998 until 4 September 2000.



Spencer is married. His wife's name is Nicole and they have a baby girl named Kenadie. Since recently joining the Naval Reserves he is currently waiting to be reassigned to another ship, probably will be the same class Frigate.

Fred tells the story of how the idea came about, "When Spencer was home on leave after his first deployment, we spent one of his leave days together and visited the Veteran's Cemetery in Madison and he was most impressed. That's when he decided to ask the Navy to honor the Veteran's Cemetery."

After the flag was flown, Fred e-mail his thanks to the captain. The captain told Spencer in an e-mail,

"SN Major, please let your father know that we were honored to fly the Indiana State Flag and that it is we who are truly thankful knowing that a simple and kind gesture of flying the state Flag could have such an effect on the people we serve. The men and women aboard JARRETT are but servants to the great nation we so proudly and bravely defend. Tell your Dad thank you for choosing the Mighty "J" to fly the Indiana State Flag. We are truly honored.

CDR F. Reid
Commanding Officer
USS JARRETT (FFG 33)
"Excellent and Able"

Wells Fargo and Habitat for Humanity Join Forces for Veterans!



Through the generosity of Wells Fargo, Habitat for Humanity has the opportunity to refurbish a foreclosed home for a disabled veteran. Identified by Wells Fargo as the Wounded Warrior program, the idea was developed as a means to give back, not only to the community in general, but specifically to those who have served our country.

In Hamilton County, Wells Fargo is helping Habitat to secure moderately priced foreclosed homes that may be available for this program. Habitat identifies a qualifying veteran then updates the house to meet their physical needs.

Qualifying candidates for this program will have the financial ability to pay an interest free mortgage on the home and will be willing to participate in a financial education program through Habitat. Candidates and their families and friends are welcome to assist in the remodeling process.

If you are interested or know someone who might qualify for this program, please contact Habitat for Humanity Hamilton County at 317 896 9423 or by emailing Gretta Troyer at gtroyer@hfhhc.org. An application can be obtained from the same source.

Walt Brown Joins the Staff at IDVA



The Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs is pleased to announce the newest addition to the IDVA Staff. Walt Brown (left) started effective October 12th and is the Assistant State Service Officer.

Born and raised in Pennsylvania, Walt has lived in Indiana since 1989 when he was sta-

tioned at Fort Benjamin Harrison. He served 20 years in the Army and retired in 1995. He was with the Department of Workforce Development from Jun 97 to Oct 2010 and served as a DVOP from Jun 97 to March 2000. Most recently, from March of 2000 to October 2010, he was a Work One Office supervisor.

He is married and resides with his wife in Indianapolis. They have been married for 25 years and have four grown children.

Jim Bennett New SAA Program Director



James C. Bennett Jr. is a new Program Director with the State Approving Agency, Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs effective 27 Sep 2010. Prior to joining IDVA, he worked as a craftsman with the Hardigg Case Center in Mt. Comfort, IN.

A Native of Chestertown Maryland, Jim's military career began as a Seaman Recruit upon completion of basic training (Orlando, 79') with his subsequent retirement as a Sonar Technician (Surface) Chief Petty Officer (Jan, 00). 21 years of Naval service included duty with the Operational Military forces of 14 countries as an ASW Operator, ASW Tactician and Navy Salvage Diver. Chief Bennett served in both the Atlantic (10yrs) & Pacific (11yrs) Fleets with tours in Newfoundland Canada, Ford Island Hawaii, Yokosuka & Sasebo Japan, RAF Brawdy Wales UK & NAS Sigonella Sicily. His last tour was as the SURTASS/LFA Mildet Leading Chief Petty Officer, NAS Whidbey Island, WA.

While on active duty; Jim completed an AS in General studies with Mohegan Community College of Norwich, CT & later a BS in Sociology with Regents College of Albany, NY. After a 25 year marriage to Carolyn, Jim has 3 children. The 2 girls, Katelyn & Kristen are at home while James III is at IU. Jim is a member of the US Naval Institute & the American Legion.

Goodbye To Two Staffers



June Behn Watts



Emmy Elmore

June, an SAA Program Director, and Emmy, our receptionist, have both moved on the bigger and better positions and we wish them both well.

Legislation Extends Special Stop-Loss Pay Deadline Through December 3rd

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON, Oct. 1, 2010 – President Barack Obama signed legislation yesterday extending the Retroactive Stop-Loss Special Pay deadline through December 3, 2010, DOD officials said today.

Officials estimate about 80,000 eligible service members, veterans and beneficiaries have yet to apply for the special stop-loss pay.

"It's important that all those eligible for this benefit take the opportunity to apply for what they've earned," said Lernes Hebert, the Defense Department's acting director of officer and enlisted personnel management. "We encourage those eligible to apply as soon as possible, to avoid the last-minute rush, which can increase processing time."

The program was due to run out Oct. 21, 2010. The extension is part of the continuing resolution that

funds federal government operations. Congress has not yet passed authorization or appropriations bills for fiscal 2011.

The program affects military members whose service was involuntarily extended under stop-loss between Sept. 11, 2001, and Sept. 30, 2009. Eligible members or their beneficiaries are required to submit a claim to their respective military service in order to receive the benefit of \$500 for each full or partial month served in a stop-loss status. The original deadline for claims was Oct. 21, 2010.

Stop-loss allows the military to extend servicemembers beyond their end-of-term of service dates. The program has been used extensively since 9-11 to maintain personnel strength in deploying units. The program allows the military to extend servicemembers whose end-of-term of service, retirement or end-of-service obligation date falls during a deployment. They may be involuntarily extended until the end of their unit's deployment. The Army and Marine Corps used the policy the most.

The special pay is meant to remunerate the servicemembers for their sacrifices. When the program began last year, the services estimated 145,000 service members, veterans and beneficiaries were eligible. Most had already separated from the services.

The services have sent direct mail to those eligible under the program. The military has engaged with military and veteran service organizations. The services also here reached out via social networks and media outlets.

Last month President Obama reached out to veterans in a video posted to the White House Web site encouraging those who are eligible to apply for the benefit.

Attachment 1 at the end of this newsletter is the DD Form 2944, Claim For Retroactive Stop Loss Payment



Donnelly Efforts to Improve Disabled Veterans Life Insurance Signed into Law

*Provision included in
The Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010*

Washington, D.C.—Today (Oct. 14, 2010), Congressman Joe Donnelly applauded the signing into law of H.R. 3219, *The Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010*, which included Donnelly's proposal to increase the supplemental coverage for veterans who have been rated 100 percent service-connected disabled.

Last year, Congressman Donnelly introduced H.R. 2713, *The Disabled Veterans Life Insurance Enhancement Act*, with the goal of making long overdue changes to an existing life insurance program that covers veterans with service-connected disabilities. Currently veterans with a 100 percent service-connected disability rating can only receive up to \$20,000 in coverage through supplemental life insurance coverage offered by the Department of Veterans Affairs, and with the average burial costs around \$6,500, not much is leftover to take care of a veteran's survivors. Congressman Donnelly's legislation sought to increase this limit to \$50,000, and after his work in a hearing and markup in the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, language was included in H.R. 3219 to increase the supplemental coverage by 50 percent to \$30,000.

"Our disabled veterans have earned this benefit through their service to our nation," Donnelly said. "I will always fight hard to ensure that the VA provides the best care and benefits possible to the brave men and women who have served; we are in their debt. This new law will provide a long overdue update of the VA's insurance policies so they work better for America's veterans."

Service-Disabled Veterans Insurance (S-DVI) was created in 1951 to provide life insurance to disabled veterans who, because of their service-connected disabilities, would be unable to obtain life

insurance on the commercial market or would be required to pay especially high premiums.

Additional provisions in H.R. 3219, which came out of Congressman Donnelly's House Committee on Veterans' Affairs, will seek to provide veterans with employment opportunities, prevent veteran homelessness, and further protect the rights of our service members called to combat.

Missing Hoosier WWII Airman Identified

The Department of Defense POW/Missing Personnel Office (DPMO) announced today that the remains of a serviceman, missing in action from World War II, have been identified and returned to his family for burial with full military honors.

Army Air Forces 2nd Lt. Arthur F. Parkhurst, of Evansville, Ind., was buried on Oct. 16 in Dayton, Ohio. On March 12, 1945, Parkhurst and five other crew members aboard a C-47A Skytrain departed Tanauan Airfield on Leyte, Philippines, on a resupply mission to guerilla troops. Once cleared for takeoff there was no further communication between the aircrew and airfield operators. When the aircraft failed to return, a thorough search of an area ten miles on either side of the intended route was initiated. No evidence of the aircraft was found and the six men were presumed killed in action, their remains determined non-recoverable.

In 1989, a Philippine national police officer contacted U.S. officials regarding a possible World War II-era aircraft crash near Leyte. Human remains, aircraft parts and artifacts -- including an identification tag belonging to Parkhurst -- were turned over to the local police, then to U.S. officials.

Among other forensic identification tools and circumstantial evidence, scientists from the Joint POW/MIA Accounting Command used dental comparisons and the Armed Forces DNA Identification Laboratory used mitochondrial DNA -- which matched that of Parkhurst's brother and sister -- in the identification of his remains.

At the end of the war, the U.S. government was unable to recover and identify approximately 79,000

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Americans. Today, more than 72,000 are unaccounted-for from the conflict.

For additional information on the Defense Department's mission to account for missing Americans, call 703-699-1169 or visit the DPMO Web site at www.dtic.mil/dpmo.

U.S. Department of Defense
Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense (Public Affairs)

On the Web: <http://www.defense.gov/releases/>
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Veterans Benefits Act of 2010 Signed by President Obama

Below is a brief synopsis of some of the changes called for in HR 3219, the Veterans' Benefits Act of 2010 which has only recently been signed into law by President Obama. It is by no means a complete list of changes called for in the legislation.

SEC. 103. 18-MONTH PERIOD FOR TRAINING OF NEW DISABLED VETERANS' OUTREACH PROGRAM SPECIALISTS AND LOCAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT REPRESENTATIVES BY NATIONAL VETERANS' EMPLOYMENT AND TRAINING SERVICES INSTITUTE.

(a) 18-month Period- Section 4102A(c)(8)(A) is amended by striking 'three-year period' and inserting '18-month period'.

(b) Effective Date-

(1) **APPLICABILITY TO NEW EMPLOYEES-** The amendment made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to a State employee assigned to perform the duties of a disabled veterans' outreach program specialist or a local veterans' employment representative

under chapter 41 of title 38, United States Code, who is so assigned on or after the date of the enactment of this Act.

(2) **APPLICABILITY TO PREVIOUSLY-HIRED EMPLOYEES-** In the case of such a State employee who is so assigned on or after January 1, 2006, and before the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Labor shall require the State to require, as a condition of a grant or contract under which funds are made available to the State in order to carry out section 4103A or 4104 of title 38, United States Code, each such employee to satisfactorily complete the training described in section 4102A(c)(8)(A) of such title by not later than the date that is 18 months after the date of the enactment of this Act.

SEC. 407. ENHANCEMENT OF VETERANS' MORTGAGE LIFE INSURANCE.

(a) In General- Section 2106(b) is amended by striking '\$90,000' and inserting '\$150,000, or after January 1, 2012, \$200,000,'.

(b) Effective Date- The amendment made by subsection (a) shall take effect on October 1, 2011.

SEC. 501. INCREASE IN CERTAIN BURIAL AND FUNERAL BENEFITS AND PLOT ALLOWANCES FOR VETERANS.

(a) Increase in Burial and Funeral Expenses for Deaths in Department Facilities- Paragraph (1)(A) of subsection (a) of section 2303 is amended by striking '\$300' and inserting '\$700 (as increased from time to time under subsection (c))'.

(b) Increase in Amount of Plot Allowances- Subsection (b) of such section is amended by striking '\$300' both places it appears and inserting '\$700 (as increased from time to time under subsection (c))'.

(1) **IN GENERAL-** Except as provided in paragraph (2), the amendments made by this section shall apply with respect to deaths occurring on or after October 1, 2011.

SEC. 502. INTERMENT IN NATIONAL CEMETERIES OF PARENTS OF CERTAIN DECEASED VETERANS.

(a) Short Title- This section may be cited as the 'Corey Shea Act'.

(b) Interment of Parents of Certain Deceased Veterans- Section 2402 is amended--

`(9)(A) The parent of a person described in subparagraph (B), if the Secretary determines that there is available space at the gravesite where the person described in subparagraph (B) is interred.

`(B) A person described in this subparagraph is a person described in paragraph (1) who--

`(i) is a hostile casualty or died from a training-related injury;

`(ii) is interred in a national cemetery; and

`(iii) at the time of the person's parent's death, did not have a spouse, surviving spouse, or child who is buried or who, upon death, may be eligible for burial in a national cemetery pursuant to paragraph (5).'; and

(4) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

`(b) For purposes of subsection (a)(9) of this section:

`(1) The term 'parent' means a biological father or a biological mother or, in the case of adoption, a father through adoption or a mother through adoption.

`(2) The term 'hostile casualty' means a person who, as a member of the Armed Forces, dies as the direct result of hostile action with the enemy, while in combat, while going to or returning from a combat mission if the cause of death was directly related to hostile action, or while hospitalized or undergoing treatment at the expense of the United States for injury incurred during combat, and includes a person killed mistakenly or acciden-

tally by friendly fire directed at a hostile force or what is thought to be a hostile force, but does not include a person who dies due to the elements, a self-inflicted wound, combat fatigue, or a friendly force while the person was in an absent-without-leave, deserter, or dropped-from-rolls status or was voluntarily absent from a place of duty.

`(3) The term 'training-related injury' means an injury incurred by a member of the Armed Forces while performing authorized training activities in preparation for a combat mission.'.

TITLE VI--COMPENSATION AND PENSION

SEC. 601. ENHANCEMENT OF DISABILITY COMPENSATION FOR CERTAIN DISABLED VETERANS WITH DIFFICULTIES USING PROSTHESES AND DISABLED VETERANS IN NEED OF REGULAR AID AND ATTENDANCE FOR RESIDUALS OF TRAUMATIC BRAIN INJURY.

(b) Veterans With Service-Connected Disabilities in Need of Regular Aid and Attendance for Residuals of Traumatic Brain Injury-

(1) IN GENERAL- Such section is further amended--

(A) in subsection (p), by striking the semicolon at the end and inserting a period; and
(B) by adding at the end the following new subsection:

`(t) Subject to section 5503(c) of this title, if any veteran, as the result of service-connected disability, is in need of regular aid and attendance for the residuals of traumatic brain injury, is not eligible for compensation under subsection (r)(2), and in the absence of such regular aid and attendance would require hospitalization, nursing home care, or other residential institutional care, the veteran shall be paid, in addition to any other compensation under this section, a monthly aid and attendance allowance equal to the rate described in subsection (r)(2), which for purposes of section 1134 of this title shall be considered as

additional compensation payable for disability. An allowance authorized under this subsection shall be paid in lieu of any allowance authorized by subsection (r)(1).'

SEC. 604. EXCLUSION OF CERTAIN AMOUNTS FROM CONSIDERATION AS INCOME FOR PURPOSES OF VETERANS PENSION BENEFITS.

- (a) Exclusion- Section 1503(a) is amended--
- (1) by striking 'and' at the end of paragraph (10);
 - (2) by redesignating paragraph (11) as paragraph (12); and
 - (3) by inserting after paragraph (10) the following new paragraph (11):
'(11) payment of a monetary amount of up to \$5,000 to a veteran from a State or municipality that is paid as a veterans' benefit due to injury or disease; and'.
- (b) Effective Date- The amendments made by subsection (a) shall apply with respect to determinations of income for calendar years beginning after October 1, 2011.

SEC. 804. ENHANCEMENT OF AUTOMOBILE ASSISTANCE ALLOWANCE FOR VETERANS.

- (a) Increase in Amount of Allowance- Subsection (a) of section 3902 is amended by striking '\$11,000' and inserting '\$18,900 (as adjusted from time to time under subsection (e))'.
- (b) Annual Adjustment- Such section is further amended by adding at the end the following new subsection:
- '(e) Effective on October 1 of each year (beginning in 2011), the Secretary shall increase the dollar amount in effect under subsection (a) by a percentage equal to the percentage by which the Consumer Price Index for all urban consumers (U.S. city average) increased during the 12-month period ending with the last month for which Consumer Price Index data is available. In the event that such Consumer Price Index does not increase during such period, the Secretary shall maintain the dollar amount in effect under subsection (a) during the previous fiscal year.'

(c) Effective Date - The amendments made by this section shall take effect on October 1, 2011.

Note: we at IDVA will be watching and will publish updates as necessary to keep CVSOs informed. Ed.

No COLA For 2011

From the TREA Washington Update for October 15, 2010:

There will be no Social Security Cost-of-Living-Adjustment (COLA) for 2011. That also means that there will be no COLAs for Military Retired Pay, for SBP or for DIC and VA payments. While this is very upsetting; it is not surprising. Why? As required by law the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics determines at the third quarter of each year whether there has been an increase in the Consumer Price Index for Urban Wage Earners and Clerical Workers' (CPI-W) "market basket" costs from the prior year. There has not. The last time there was an increase was the 5.8% determined in October of 2008! (That was the highest COLA in 27 years). So the next COLA increase won't happen until the CPI-W prices rise above that level.

This is only the second year that there has not been an increase since the automatic adjustments for inflation were made law in 1975. The first year was this year.

The Social Security trustees estimate that there will be a 1.2% COLA in 2012 but there is no guarantee.

State Approving Agency Update

TRANSFER OF the Post 9/11 GI Bill EDUCATION BENEFITS

In Fall of 2009 IDVA published information in regards to transferring a veteran's Post 9/11 GI Bill to dependents. We have had a number of questions in our office as well as at Seamless Transition Workshops so we wanted to reiterate the information on transferring benefits.

To transfer benefits the veteran must be eligible for Chapter 33 education benefits.

The veteran must also be a member of the Armed Forces (Active Duty, Selected Reserve or National Guard, officer or enlisted) on or after August 1, 2009, who is eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, and:

- Has at least 6 years of service in the Armed Forces on the date of election and agrees to serve 4 additional years in the Armed Forces from the date of election.
- Has at least 10 years of service in the Armed Forces (Active duty, Selected Reserve or National Guard) on the date of election, is precluded by either standard policy (service or DoD) or statute from committing to 4 additional years, and agrees to serve for the maximum amount of time allowed by such policy or statute, or
- Is or becomes retirement eligible during the period from August 1, 2009, through August 1, 2013. A service member is considered to be retirement eligible if he or she has completed 20 years of active duty or 20 qualifying years of reserve service.
 - For those individuals eligible for retirement on August 1, 2009, no additional service is required.
 - For those individuals who have an approved retirement date after August 1, 2009, and before July 1, 2010, no additional service is required.
 - For those individuals eligible for retirement after August 1, 2009, and before August 1, 2010, 1 year of additional service after approval of transfer is required.
 - For those individuals eligible for retirement on or after August 1, 2010, and before August 1, 2011, 2 years of additional service after approval of transfer are required.
 - For those individuals eligible for retirement on or after August 1, 2011, and before August 1, 2012, 3 years of additional service after approval of transfer required.

Once a veteran makes the decision to transfer their benefits they will have to complete the following steps.

1. Go to www.dmdc.osd.mil/TEB/
 - a. Fill out an application.
If the veteran does not have a password they may request one through the same web site.
2. Once DoD allows transferability the veteran will be able to go back to the web site and print off verification of transferability. We are suggesting 7-10 duty days, could be more or less.
3. The dependent who is receiving the benefit must send a copy of the letter from DoD and complete VA Form 22-1990E, either hard copy or at the GI Bill web site via VONAPP.
4. Once the dependent receives the Certificate of Eligibility (CoE) they must turn in the CoE to the Certifying Official (CO) who in turn will certify the student for that semester they are attending. (the student must contact the CO each semester they are enrolled in school to ensure payments are made)

Programs allowed under the Post 9/11 GI Bill: The Post 9/11 GI Bill payment rates will only be paid at Accredited, Degree Granting, and Institutions of Higher Learning. If a Veteran qualified for another GI Bill Program (Chapter 30, Chapter 1606, or Chapter 1607) before changing to the Post 9/11 (Chapter 33), then the veteran or the transferee are eligible to use the Post 9/11 benefit at other programs that are not accredited, degree granting, and institutions of higher learning, HOWEVER, they will receive payments at the program given up, (i.e. Chapter 30, 1606, or 1607).

The Indiana Operation Enduring Freedom/ Operation Iraqi Freedom/Operation New Dawn Memorial Wall

**Indiana has sustained the following
casualties since the last Update**



U.S. Marine Corps Sergeant **Jeremy McQueary**, 27, Columbus, Indiana.

Died February 18, 2010 in Afghanistan in Helmand province, from wounds suffered by an improvised explosive device.

McQueary was assigned to 2nd Combat Engineer Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, based in Camp Lejeune, N.C.



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. **Gregory Scott Stultz**, 22, Brazil, Indiana.

Died February 19, 2010 while supporting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan.

He was assigned to 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force, Okinawa, Japan.



U.S. Marine Corps Lance Corporal, **Joshua H. Birchfield**, 24, Westville, Indiana.

Died February 19, 2010 while supporting combat operations in the Farah province, Afghanistan.

He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Twentynine Palms, Calif.



United States Marine Corps Captain, **Brandon A. Barrett**, 27, of Marion, Indiana.

Died May 5, 2010 while supporting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan.

He was assigned to 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.



United States Marine Corps Sergeant **John K. Rankel**, 23, of Speedway, Indiana.

Died June 7, 2010 while supporting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan.

He was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.



United States Marine Corps Corporal **Daane A. DeBoer**, 24, of Ludington, Michigan, formerly from Valparaiso, Indiana.

Killed June 28, 2010 by an improvised explosive device while on foot patrol.

He was part of the 1st Combat Engineer Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force from Camp Pendleton, Calif.



United States Army Sergeant **Christopher N. Karch**, 23, of Indianapolis, Indiana.

Died August 11, 2010 in Arghandab Valley, Afghanistan, of wounds suffered when insurgents attacked his unit with small arms fire.

He was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 508th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 4th Brigade Combat Team,



United States Army Specialist **Christopher S. Wright**, 23, of Jeffersonville, Indiana.

Died August 19, 2010 in Pech, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. According to initial reports, Specialist Wright died of injuries sustained from small arms fire.

He was assigned to C Company, 1st Battalion, 75th Ranger Regiment, Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia.



United States Army Private First Class **Justin B. Shoecraft**, 28, of Elkhart, Indiana.

Died August 24, 2010 of wounds sustained when insurgents attacked his unit using an improvised explosive device at Kadarak, Afghanistan.

He was assigned to the 1st Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment, based at Vilseck, Germany.



United States Army Specialist **Chad D. Clements**, 26, of Huntington, Indiana.

Died August 30, 2010 in Arghandab River Valley, Afghanistan after an improvised explosive device or roadside bomb detonated near his vehicle.

He was assigned to the 4th Brigade Support Battalion, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division.



United States Army Staff Sergeant **Phillip Chad Jenkins**, 27, of Decatur, Indiana.

Died September 7, 2010 in Balad, Iraq of wounds suffered in a shooting accident in Salah ad-Din province.

He was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Advise and Assist Brigade, 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.



United States Marine Corps Corporal **John C. Bishop**, 25, of Columbus, Indiana.

Died September 8, 2010 in combat in Helmand province, Afghanistan. He was on his first tour to Afghanistan after serving twice in Iraq.

He was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division, II Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Lejeune, N.C.



United States Army Sergeant **Marvin R. Calhoun, Jr.**, 23, of Elkhart, Indiana.

Died in a helicopter crash September 21, 2010 during combat operations in Zabul province, Afghanistan, while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom.

He was assigned to 101st Combat Aviation Brigade, 5th Battalion, 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault), Fort Campbell, Ky.



United States Army Staff Sergeant **Kenneth K. McAninch**, 28, formerly of Logansport, Indiana.

Died on October 21, 2010, in Paktika Province, Afghanistan, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom of injuries sustained from small arms fire.

He was assigned to A Company, 1st Battalion, 506th Infantry Regiment, 101st Airborne Division, Fort Campbell, Kentucky.



CLAIM FOR RETROACTIVE STOP LOSS PAYMENT

THIS PROGRAM ENDS ON OCTOBER 21, 2010 AND THIS CLAIM MUST BE FILED BY OCTOBER 21, 2010. Please type or print legibly.
RETURN YOUR CLAIM TO THE SERVICE UNDER WHICH YOU SERVED WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY:

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE:

Active, retired and former Air Force members:
<http://www.afpc.randolph.af.mil/stoploss>
 E-mail: afpc.dpsos.stoploss@randolph.af.mil
 Fax: (210) 565-4599 or DSN: 665-4599
 Mail: AFPC/DPSOS (Stop Loss Section)
 550 C. Street West, Suite 3
 Randolph AFB, TX 78150-4713

Reserve component members:
 E-mail: arpc.contactcenter@arpc.denver.af.mil
 Fax: (478) 327-2215 or DSN 497-2215
 Mail: HQ ARPC/DPS (Stop Loss Section)
 6760 E. Irvington Place
 Denver, CO 80280

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY:

It is preferred that applicants submit on-line applications to the U.S. Army Stop Loss Program Office, via the web-based, on-line system at <https://www.stoplosspay.army.mil>. Alternatively, hard copy signed and dated applications may be mailed to:

E-mail: retrostoplosspay@conus.army.mil
 Mail: 5109 Leesburg Pike, Suite 302
 Falls Church, VA 22041
 Telephone: (877) 736-5554 toll free

U.S. MARINE CORPS:

It is preferred that applicants submit on-line applications to the Marine Corps Stop Loss Program Office (SLPO), via the web-based, on-line Stop Loss Case Management System (SLCMS) at the following URL: <https://www.manpower.usmc.mil/slcms>. Alternatively, hard copy signed and dated applications may be mailed to:

Headquarters U.S. Marine Corps
 Manpower and Reserve Affairs MID/SLPO
 3280 Russell Rd.
 Quantico VA 22134-5103
 SLPO Organizational Mailbox: stoploss@usmc.mil
 SLPO toll free phone number: 1-877-242-2830

DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY:

Commander
 Navy Personnel Command
 PERS 832
 5720 Integrity Drive
 Millington, TN 38055-8320
 Telephone: (901) 874-4427, DSN: 882-4427
 Email: NXAG_N132C@navy.mil

1. MILITARY MEMBER

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)

b. SSN (Last 4 digits)

2. CLAIMANT (If other than Member)

a. NAME (Last, First, Middle Initial)

b. SSN (Last 4 digits)

3. SERVICE AT TIME OF ACTIVE DUTY (X one)

☐ ARMY ☐ NAVY
☐ AIR FORCE ☐ MARINE CORPS

4. SERVICE STATUS AT START OF STOP LOSS (X one)

☐ ACTIVE DUTY ☐ ANG ☐ IRR ☐ RESERVE
☐ OTHER SERVICE (Specify)

5. APPLICANT CURRENT STATUS (X one)

☐ LIVING ☐ DECEASED* ☐ INCAPACITATED

6. APPLICANT SERVICE STATUS (X one)

☐ RETIRED ☐ SEPARATED ☐ ACTIVE DUTY

* If deceased, attach documentation establishing the beneficiary.

7. CLAIMED STOP LOSS PERIOD**

a. FROM (YYYYMMDD)

b. TO (YYYYMMDD)

**Dates on eligible Active Duty during covered stop loss time periods. If more than one claim, list each claim separately on one attachment to this application and submit.

8. CLAIMANT'S MAILING ADDRESS/CONTACT INFORMATION

a. STREET/APARTMENT NUMBER

b. CITY

c. STATE

d. 5-DIGIT ZIP CODE

e. COUNTRY CODE
(If overseas)

f. TELEPHONE NUMBER
(Include area code)

g. EMAIL ADDRESS

h. STATE OF LEGAL RESIDENCE

9. PAYMENT DISBURSEMENT (X one)

☐ a. DIRECT DEPOSIT/ELECTRONIC FUNDS TRANSFER:

☐ b. CHECK

☐ (1) SAVINGS ☐ (2) CHECKING

10. FINANCIAL INFORMATION

a. BANK NAME

b. ACCOUNT NUMBER

c. BANK ROUTING NUMBER

11. CLAIMANT AUTHORIZATION

I hereby authorize the Military Department under which I served while on Active Duty and other authorized Federal agencies to obtain any information required including, but not limited to, Internal Revenue Service (IRS), DFAS, etc. This authorization is valid for one year from the date this form was signed. I understand I have a right to challenge the accuracy and completeness of any information contained in the report pertaining to my case. I also understand that this information will be treated as privileged and confidential information. Case files are handled under the procedures for safeguarding records.

I hereby release any individual, including records custodians, any component of the U.S. Government supplying information, from all liability for damages that may result on account of compliance, or any attempts to comply with this authorization. This release is binding, now and in the future, on my heirs, assigns, associates, and personal representative(s) of any nature. Copies of this authorization that show my signature are as valid as the original release signed by me.

a. CLAIMANT SIGNATURE (Hard copy signature is MANDATORY)

b. DATE SIGNED (YYYYMMDD)

CLAIM FOR RETROACTIVE STOP LOSS PAYMENT*(Read Privacy Act Statement and Instructions before completing form.)*

OMB No. 0704-0464

The public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing the burden, to the Department of Defense, Washington Headquarters Services, Executive Services Directorate, Information Management Division, 1155 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-1155 (0704-0464). Respondents should be aware that notwithstanding any other provision of law, no person shall be subject to any penalty for failing to comply with a collection of information if it does not display a currently valid OMB control number.

PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR FORM TO THE ABOVE ORGANIZATION. RETURN COMPLETED FORM BY FIRST CLASS MAIL, EMAIL OR FAX TO THE SERVICE UNDER WHICH YOU SERVED WHILE ON ACTIVE DUTY AT THE ADDRESS LISTED ON THE FOLLOWING PAGE.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT

AUTHORITY: Public Law 111-32, Section 310; E.O. 9397.

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE(S): Solicitation of information contained herein may be used as a basis for retroactive stop loss pay determinations. Your information will be used by the Services, for verification of eligibility and then by the Defense Finance and Accounting Service for payment of Retroactive Stop Loss payments. The Military Departments describe how your information will be maintained in their Privacy Act System of Record Notice.

ROUTINE USE(S): The DoD "Blanket Routine Uses" apply.

DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to provide information requested on this form may result in the government's inability to provide benefits under the stop loss pay program. Your Social Security Number is being requested pursuant to E.O. 9397. The SSN and other identifying information are needed to pay the proper person, ensure entitlement to benefits, and for tax purposes.

INSTRUCTIONS**PURPOSE.**

This form collects information for Military Department programs for Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay as authorized and appropriated in Section 310 of Public Law 111-32. This program compensates Service members, including members of the Reserve components, as well as former and retired members under the jurisdiction of the Secretary who, at any time during the period beginning on September 11, 2001, and ending on September 30, 2009, served on active duty while the Service member's enlistment or period of obligated service was extended, or whose eligibility for retirement was suspended pursuant to any provision of law authorizing the President to extend any period of obligated service, or suspend eligibility for retirement, of a Service member in time of war or of national emergency declared by Congress or the President. Only Service members who were honorably discharged from the Service and were under Stop Loss Authority while on Active Duty are eligible to apply for this special payment program. Service members who voluntarily reenlisted or extended their service or suspended their retirement and received a bonus for such reenlistment or extension of service are not eligible to receive the Retroactive Stop Loss Special Pay.

GENERAL BACKGROUND STATEMENT.

Under the "Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009", Public Law 111-32, the Military Departments are authorized to collect the information needed to certify the claimant's eligibility to collect payment while under Stop Loss Authority. The Military Departments need this information to accurately determine the time, amount, and taxability of the claim submitted for payment. If the claim is denied, the claimant can contact the Service they served in to submit their appeal. Final determination on granting benefits under this program is the responsibility of the Military Departments. You may be provided the opportunity personally to explain, refute, or clarify any information before a final decision is made. If you made claim to Stop Loss payment under any other Public Law over the last two years, then you are not eligible to make a claim for the same time period under this Public Law.

CLAIMANT.

If discharged, the Service member must have been honorably discharged. Veterans: The claimant is the veteran or an eligible recipient of the veteran's estate of a deceased veteran. If claimant is incompetent, please include conservator documentation with this form. In addition, if payment is being made to the veteran's estate, proper supporting documentation must also be submitted with this form. Non-submission of this documentation will delay payment.

DOCUMENTATION.

In addition to this form, submit documentation as listed below. The Military Departments may request additional documentation as necessary.

1. DD Form 214, Certificate of Release or Discharge from Active Duty and/or DD Form 215, Correction to DD Form 214.
2. Personnel record or enlistment or reenlistment document recording original expiration of service date.
3. Approved retirement memorandum or orders establishing retirement prior to actual date of retirement as stipulated on DD Form 214 or DD Form 215.
4. Approved resignation memorandum or transition orders establishing a separation date prior to actual date of separation as stipulated in DD Form 214 or DD Form 215.
5. Signed documentation or affidavit from knowledgeable officials from the individual's chain of command acknowledging separation/deployment, etc.

Attachments included (X one) ☐ YES ☐ NO

Mailing Deadlines for Holidays

The U.S. Postal Service announced that the recommended mailing deadline for sending economy-priced holiday packages to servicemembers in Afghanistan, Iraq and other places around the world is Nov. 12. Other deadlines for arrival by Dec. 25 are Nov. 26 for space-available mail; Dec. 3 for parcel airlift mail; Dec. 10 for Priority Mail and First-Class Mail, letters and cards; and Dec. 18 for Express Mail Military Service. Holiday packages and mail headed for Iraq and Afghanistan must be sent a week earlier than the deadlines above. For specific restrictions and mailing prices to an APO/FPO address, visit the Postal Service's online price calculator, <http://postcalc.usps.gov/>, or a local post office, or call 800-ASK-USPS.

Article from:
Military Report
The Military Community's
FREE Weekly Benefits & Quality of Life Newsletter
Monday, 18 OCTOBER 2010

View The Newsletter Online at
http://www.military.com/NL_MR/1,14852,8602,00.html



Director's Comments

For this issue of the IDVA Update I'm happy to be able to provide a full 15-page newsletter once again. There is a lot going on in the veteran world and it can be a chore sometimes just keeping up with it. This would be a good place to thank Norm Sullivan for the work he puts into The Eagle, the newsletter of the Indiana Veterans' Service Officers' Association. It's amazing that our articles are rarely repeated in both publication.

We try to keep everyone updated on things as they happen via e-mail, and we always send a hard-copy to those few CVSOs who do not have computers.

Delaware County CVSO Jerry Griffis recently circulated an e-mail from one of the latest AARP magazines of an article entitled "Taking Aim at Old Soldiers" which talks about the seminars being conducted by some organizations. Seminars which target veterans by encouraging them to incur unwise investments in order to become eligible for VA Pension at the A&A (Aid and Attendance) rate. I didn't reprint that article in this newsletter as there may be some copyright issues, so I encourage all CVSOs to get a copy of that magazine and read the article, or contact someone who retained a copy of Jerry's e-mail and get it that way.

Another e-mail I received was from a World War II Merchant Marine member who was told there was a recently deceased Merchant Mariner who was not accorded funeral honors by a funeral home because, they said, he was not a veteran. I would ask that all CVSO contact the funeral homes in their area and inform them that the VA includes WWII era Merchant Mariners as veterans for funeral benefits. Specifically, those American merchant marines who were in seagoing service during World War II and those merchant seamen who were on block ships in support of Operation Mulberry in the WWII invasion of Normandy. In fact, it might be a good idea for everyone to review Chapter 9 (Special Groups of Veterans) of the *Federal Benefits for Veterans, Dependents and Survivors*.

I was recently contacted by a representative of the National Resource Directory (NRD). It is a web site for wounded, ill and injured service members, veterans, their families and those who support them.

It provides access to services and resources at the national, state and local levels to support recovery, rehabilitation and community reintegration. Visitors can find information on a variety of topics including benefits & compensation, education & training, employment, family & caregiver support, health, homeless assistance, housing, transportation & travel and other services & resources from every state, including Indiana.

The NRD is a partnership among the Departments of Defense, Labor and Veterans Affairs. The information contained within the NRD is from federal, state and local government agencies; veterans' service and benefit organizations; non-profit and community-based organizations; academic institutions and professional associations that provide assistance to wounded warriors and their families.

Find them at: www.nationalresourcedirectory.gov/

Indiana Department of Veterans Affairs
302 W. Washington Street E-120
Indianapolis, IN 46204